

One Grand Lady to Another

Excellence in Non-Fiction Award to Judith Buckrich

Noted historian, Dr Judith Buckrich, has won the prestigious Excellence in Non-Fiction Award 2017 with her outstanding 'Acland Street: The Grand Lady of St Kilda'.

Judges Jean Thornton and Bill Anderson were high in their praise for this work.

In their report they said: *We had no hesitation in selecting this beautifully written, wonderfully well illustrated and superbly produced book as this year's winner.*

The history of the 175 year old iconic and much loved Acland street is deeply researched and written in a most engaging and entertaining manner, truly a joy for both the mind and the eye. This is a model local history, a delight to read, and a significant contribution to Australian historiography."

Dr Buckrich was born in Budapest, Hungary in 1950 and emigrated to Melbourne, Australia with her parents in 1958. She has a BED in Drama and Media Studies from Rusden College (1977) and a PhD from the University of Melbourne (1997).

Judith also won a 2016 Victorian Community History Award for 'The Village of Ripponlea'.

She is working on a history of Greville Street, Prahran, and planning a work on the Yarra River.

Judith is the author of 'Melbourne's Grand Boulevard: The Story of St Kilda Road'; 'The Montefiore Homes: 150 Years of Care'; 'George Turner: A Life.'; 'The Long and Perilous Journey: A History of the Port of Melbourne.'; 'Lighthouse on the Boulevard: A History of the Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind.'; 'Design for Living: A History of Prahran Tech.'; 'Well Rowed University: Melbourne University Boat Club The First 150 Years.'; 'The Making of Us: Rusden Drama, Media and Dance 1966-2002.'; 'The Village of Ripponlea.'; 'The Political is Personal: A Twentieth Century Memoir.'

Judith returned to Budapest in 1987 and was working for the English language Daily News during the 1989 velvet revolution. She had many articles published in Australia in The Age Monthly Review, Quadrant and Directions about this eventful period. In 1995 she co-edited, with Lucy Sussex, the first anthology of Australian women's science fiction, fantasy and magic realism, *She's Fantastical*.

She has edited two collections of Australian poetry translated into Hungarian by Istvan Turczi.

Between 2003 and 2009 she edited the third and fourth volumes of *Our Voice/Nuestra Voz/Notre Vois* for the International PEN Women Writers' Committee. She was Chair of the International PEN Women Writers' Committee from 2003 to 2009 and President of the Melbourne PEN Centre from 1993 to 2005.

Since 1977, Judith has written works for the theatre, short stories, feature articles and essays and worked as an editor and translator. She has taught writing at Deakin University, the Victorian Writers' Centre and Melbourne University Union and been an arts administrator. Spoken about her work on television and radio and given talks at the National Gallery of Victoria, Royal Historical Society of Victoria and for many other organizations. Judith curated exhibitions for the Royal

Historical Society of Victoria and the Museum of the Port of Melbourne and has several entries in Remembering Melbourne 1850-1960 and the Encyclopedia of Melbourne for which she was image researcher.

Please see judithbuckrich.com.au for more detail.

Highly Commended award to Mark Colvin

Mark Colvin was highly commended for his book 'Light and Shadow: Memoirs of a Spy's Son'.

Sadly Mark passed away before he could enjoy his commendation, but left with us a fine history of work in literature, broadcasting, and health awareness.

Judges Bill Anderson and Jean Thornton reported: *"This exceptionally well-written and engrossing memoir by the late Mark Colvin, best known for his outstanding career as a journalist and broadcaster, is an exceptionally fine, important and entertaining book and is most worthy of a High Commendation."*

Mark was an Australian journalist and broadcaster. Based in Sydney, he was the presenter of PM - one of the flagship Australian radio current affairs programs on the ABC Radio network—from 1997 to 2017.

Melbourne University Press said Mark joined the ABC as a cadet in 1974. He was the first presenter of The World Today and worked for Four Corners for five years. After five years as London correspondent for the ABC, interrupted by six months in hospital with a life threatening disease, he returned to Australia as presenter of PM in 1997, a job he continued to do despite three years on dialysis and a successful kidney transplant. Mark died in May 2017.